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Hungarian Youth Organizations

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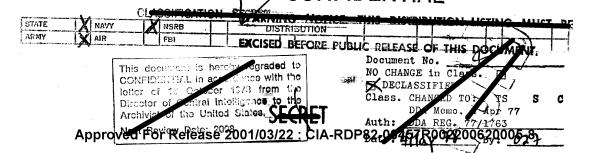
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- The Association of Hungarian Democratic Youth (Magyar Demokrata Ifjusagi Szoveteg), MADISZ, was created in 1945 by the Hungarian Communist Party. It was assigned the role of becoming the Communist-controlled top organization to unite and control all the Democratic Youth organizations of the country. However, as soon as the non-Communist Youth organizations became aware of its aims, they began a struggle against the MADISZ which still continues.
- 2. At first, the Communists concentrated their efforts on taking hold of the key positions within the MADISZ itself. Faced with the resistance of the member-organizations to admitting fellow-travellers into the leadership, the Communists resorted to violence. The recalcitrant representatives of the member-organizations were successively involved in various conspiracies, arbitrarily invented by the Political Police, and arrested. By this and similar methods, they eventually succeeded in intimidating the new delegates and turning them into subservient tools of the Communists.
- 3. After thus gaining the key positions in the MADISZ, the Communists started a campaign to subdue the member-organizations as well. One of the largest among the non-Communist organizations was the KALOT, the Catholic Youth association. As the Communists realized that they could not succeed in penetrating and subduing this organization by applying the methods used against the MADISZ, they abelished it, in the summer of 1946, with the conmivance of General Syldirov, then President of the Allied Control Commission in Hungary.
- At the end of 1946, the Political Police discovered a conspiracy against the State in a training school of Boy Scout officers. Under the pretext of purging the movement of unreliable political elements, the Communists eliminated the old leadership and changed the whole structure of the movement. They placed the movement under the leadership of Geza Kardos, a senior member of the Communist Party. The movement was then renamed the "Ploneer Movement".
- The Independent Youth Movement (Fuggetlen Ifjusagi Mozgalom), FIM, with 600,000 members, was the organization of the Hungarian Peasant Youth and was sponsored by the Small Landowners' Party. After several abortive attempts, the Communists succeeded in subduing it in the summer of 1947.



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At that time Ferenc Nagy was forced to resign as Prime Minister of Hungary, and the Communists took advantage of the crisis to eliminate the old leadership of the FIM and replace it with Communist stooges.

- 6. The resistance of the SZIM, organization of the Social Democratic Youth, lasted until the spring of 1948, when a merger with the Communist Party was forced upon the Hungarian Social Democratic Party. The SZIM was then incorporated into the MINSZ (Magyar Ifjusegi Nepi Mosgalom), a newly created youth organization of the two united parties of the workers. From then on, the MADISZ lost much of its importance and its role was gradually taken over by the MINSZ, which thus became its successor.
- 7. The Communists were fully aware that by getting control of the leadership of the non-Communist youth organizations, only a very superficial part of the work had been accomplished. They soon realized that the lower strata, the masses, of these organizations were still passively but stubbornly resisting. A new two-fold drive to conquer the masses was therefore begun. On the one hand, they are striving to gain the masses of the non-Communist organizations, on the other hand, they are making a strong effort to win over those masses of the youth which are still outside the existing organizations.
- 8. The chances of the MADISZ to achieve these aims are not to be underestimated. Apart from the cold terror and other means of intimidation, there is a rich variety of other means at their disposal. Noteworthy in this connection are all the privileges, subsidies, scholarships, all sorts of moral and material support and favors which the MADISZ is able to extend to their members and which cannot fail, in the long run, to soften the resistance of the masses. However, for the time being, the great majority of the youth is still firm in its resistance against the efforts of the Communists.
- 9. George Non, age 29, served a two-year term in the same prison with Matyas Rakosi, the Communist leader. During the war, Non was put into a Hungarian labor battalion and was captured by the Russians in 1944. The Russians gave him a six months special training course in an NKVD camp. At the end of 1944, he was parachuted into Hungary where he joined the Communist underground during the seige of Budapest. After the liberation, he was secretary to Rakosi, and then successively President of the MADISZ and the MINSZ. He is a member of the Hungarian Parliament. He is an able young man and Rakosi considers him his friend and disciple. There is general agreement among Hungarian Communists that he is one of the "great hopes" of the